

Station 15: Ferns + Poison Ivy

Several species of fern can be found along this section of trail. Ferns are common in New England and are often found in low, wooded, swampy areas such as this, although they grow in upland areas as well. On this property one might encounter the hay-scented fern, lady fern, sensitive fern, cinnamon fern, bracken fern, interrupted fern, christmas fern, marsh fern, New York fern, silvery glade fern, royal fern, and various other



evergreen ferns.

As you continue towards Station 16, be aware of path-side poison ivy. Poison ivy is a climbing vine native to New England which produces an oil called *urushiol*, an irritant which most people are allergic to and causes raised itchy rashes. The rhyme, “leaves of three, leave it be” can help with identification, as it is often confused with the non-allergenic Virginia creeper, a vine with five leaflets. See below images for further reference.

